

# UD Scientists Sleuth Out Proteins Involved in Crohn's Disease

- Crohn's disease has been identified as an emerging global disease. In the United States alone, as many as 700,000 people may be afflicted, predominantly adolescents and young adults between 15 and 35 years of age, according to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.
- University of Delaware researchers have identified a protein, hiding in plain sight, that acts like a bodyguard to help protect and stabilize another key protein, that when unstable, is involved in Crohn's disease.
- The fundamental research points to a possible pathway for developing an effective therapy for the inflammatory bowel disease.
- Identifying proteins that interact and stabilize NOD2 is a first step to developing novel therapies to treat Crohn's disease, the UD research team says.



## The Molecular Chaperone HSP70 Binds to and Stabilizes NOD2, an Important Protein Involved in Crohn Disease\*

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Catherine Leimkuhler Grimes, assistant professor, and doctoral student Vishnu Mohanan are sleuthing out proteins involved in Crohn's disease, information critical to the development of novel therapies for the inflammatory bowel disease.

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